

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An actuating device for miniature keyboards and input tablets, comprising:

an actuating element adapted to the size of keys and tablet fields of palmtop computers, the actuating element having a dome (12) adapted to the curve of a fingertip such that the dome can be fitted to the fingertip by means of a removable adhesive bond, and wherein the dome has a pin-shaped projection (14) on a convex side which serves as an actuating member.

2. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the dome (12) is made of a soft plastic material which molds to the fingertip.

3. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 1, wherein a concave side of the dome (12) is joined to an adhesive layer (18) which permits repeated fitting and removal of the dome to and from the fingertip.

4. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 3, wherein the adhesive layer (18) is perforated.

5. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 1, wherein a concave side of the dome is joined to a ring-shaped layer (28) which bears an adhesive material, and the dome forms a cavity (24) within the ring-shaped layer

5 that acts as a suction cup when the dome is fitted on the
6 fingertip.

1 6. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 5,
2 wherein a circumference of the dome is circular in shape.

1 7. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 5,
2 wherein the pin-shaped projection (22) has a funnel-
3 shaped extension (25) that protrudes into the cavity (24)
4 as far as the rim (21) of the dome to form another cavity
5 (26) that acts as another suction cup when the dome is
6 fitted on the fingertip.

1 8. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 5,
2 wherein the dome (20, 30) and the pin-shaped projection
3 (22, 32) are manufactured as one piece.

1 9. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 1,
2 wherein, in order to form the pin-shaped projection (14),
3 a pin is inserted into an opening in the dome (12) and
4 joined to the dome (12) and to an adhesive layer (18).

1 10. The actuating device in accordance with Claim 1,
2 wherein the dome (30) is joined on a concave side to a
3 ring-shaped layer (36) which bears an adhesive material,
4 and that the dome forms a bell-shaped chamber within the
5 ring-shaped layer which is filled out by an inlay (38)
6 made of a felt-type material.

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